

Outreach

Recreation and Lands Staff Officer GS-0401-11

Kaibab National Forest North Kaibab Ranger District Fredonia, AZ

The Position

The Kaibab National Forest will soon fill a Recreation and Lands Staff Officer position on the North Kaibab Ranger District, located on the north side of Grand Canyon. The district lies on the Kaibab Plateau, 30 miles south of Fredonia, Arizona, where the district office is located.

This position has responsibility for planning, execution, and administration of the district's recreation, wilderness, trails, special uses (recreation and lands), and minerals programs. The incumbent will directly supervise one GS-9 Recreation Operations Manager and one GS-9 Recreation Planner/Visitor Information Services Coordinator, and will indirectly supervise one GS-7 Recreation Technician. The recreation program features two developed campgrounds and one group area; 350+ miles of trails, including 56 miles of the Arizona National Scenic Trail and the world-famous Rainbow Rim Trail; and 109,000 acres of wilderness. The district also has a small but complex lands and minerals program, along with significant outfitter and guide use on the Kaibab Plateau.

Application Information

This position will be filled using an open continuous roster through the USAjobs (www.usajobs.com) and Avue (www.avuecentral.com) web sites. Interested parties should apply by locating announcement number "PERM-OCR-0401-57911-NAT-DP" for individuals without permanent government appointments or "PERM-OCR-0401-57911-NAT-G" for individuals with permanent government status. Make sure to specify Fredonia, AZ as a preferred duty station.

We plan to request referral lists on September 24, 2010. All applications should be completed and certified by that date to be considered.

The Forest

The Kaibab National Forest is part of the largest contiguous ponderosa pine forest in North America. The forest consists of three districts totaling 1.6 million acres that border both the north and south rims of the Grand Canyon. Wildlife is abundant and includes elk, deer, pronghorn antelope, turkey, coyote, black bear and mountain lion. Spanning from north-central Arizona to the Utah border, the Kaibab National Forest offers breathtaking views, unusual geologic formations, diverse recreation and more.

Vegetation varies by elevation. The lowest point on the forest is 3,500 feet in the southwest corner and the highest is 10,418 feet at the summit of Kendrick Peak. Near desert-like conditions exist at the lower canyon elevations, changing to pinyon-juniper woodlands, the ponderosa pine belt and mixed conifer forests of pine, spruce and aspen as the elevation rises.

The District

The North Kaibab Ranger District program areas include forest and rangeland vegetation management, fire/fuels, wildlife, recreation, wilderness and heritage resource management.

The district's fire/fuels management program includes wildland fire use and management-ignited fire (treating 5,000 to 10,000 acres annually). There is limited but significant wildland-urban interface on the Kaibab Plateau along the major travel routes to Grand Canyon National Park. Fire season generally occurs from mid-May through early to mid-July, with most fires caused by lightning.

The district is home to the largest number of northern goshawks in the lower 48 states, a bison herd, California condors, the Kaibab squirrel and a renowned mule deer population, among other wildlife. Key recreation areas on the district include Saddle Mountain and Kanab Creek Wildernesses, the 18-mile Rainbow Rim Trail along the edge of Grand Canyon, and the Great Western and Arizona Trails.

The district has an unusually high number of archaeological sites, pictographs and petroglyphs from a human presence around the Kaibab Plateau dating back at least 10,000 years. Given the close proximity of many indigenous populations, the heritage program is constantly engaged in locating, protecting and studying the historical resources of the area. The plateau is also rich in a more recent history of occupation by Mormon settlers and the creation of the Grand Canyon National Game Preserve by Teddy Roosevelt.

The Local Area

The area is rural in character with full-service communities nearby. The North Kaibab Ranger Station is located in Fredonia, Arizona. Fredonia's population is approximately 1,100, with K-12 schools, a post office, churches, several small motels, and gas stations.

Kanab, Utah, seven miles north of Fredonia, has approximately 3,500 residents. It offers K-12 schools, a post office, two grocery stores, several motels and restaurants, a nine-hole golf course,

a movie theatre, a playhouse, a hospital, a number of churches, miscellaneous retail stores, and a community chorus and orchestra.

Larger communities such as Page, Arizona (90 miles east) and St. George, Utah (80 miles west) offer additional shopping, larger medical facilities, malls and commercial airports for smaller aircraft.

Federal land management agencies and Native American tribes play a prominent role in the area. The district is bordered by Grand Canyon National Park to the south, Vermilion Cliffs National Monument (BLM) to the east, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (BLM) and Zion National Park to the north, and the Arizona Strip (BLM) to the west. The Kaibab Band of Paiutes reservation is located just west of Fredonia.

Climate depends on elevation. Summers are generally sunny and hot, ranging from average highs of 90 to 100 degrees in Fredonia, Kanab and the lower red rock elevations, to a delightful 70 to 80 degrees in the higher elevations of the forest.

The southwestern monsoon season delivers summer thunderstorms and rain from early July through early September. Winters are mild at the lower elevations (4900 feet) in our communities, with highs in the 30s and 40s, and lows in the teens and 20s. Higher elevations on the forest often see four or more feet of snow.

Government housing is not available. Rental houses and apartments are available in Fredonia and Kanab, but can be difficult to find during spring and summer months, ranging from \$500 to \$1,000/month.

For More Information

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